



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Umatilla Agency
Post Office Box 520
Pendleton, Oregon 97801

December 17, 2004

Dear Reader:

Enclosed for your review and comment is the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Wanapa Energy Center near Hermiston, Oregon. The project is being proposed by Diamond Generating Corporation, the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, the City of Hermiston, the City of Eugene acting through the Eugene Water and Electric Board, and the Port of Umatilla. The Bureau of Indian Affairs is the lead federal agency and the Bonneville Power Administration and the Bureau of Reclamation are cooperating agencies for this Environmental Impact Statement.

The Final Environmental Impact Statement analyzes the impacts from construction of a 1,200 megawatt electrical generating plant to be constructed as two separate 600 megawatt blocks. The project would also include a 4.4 mile electrical transmission line that would interconnect the plant with the Bonneville Power Administration's McNary Substation and a 9.9 mile natural gas supply pipeline that would provide power plant fuel from the interstate natural gas pipeline system near Stanfield, Oregon. Cooling water for the plant would be withdrawn from the Columbia River through an existing Port of Umatilla intake structure and plant wastewater would be discharged to the Cold Springs Reservoir via a pipeline paralleled with the natural gas pipeline. The EIS analyzes six route alternatives for the natural gas pipeline, three route alternatives for the electrical transmission line and one location alternative for the plant discharge water. The Final EIS addresses issues and concerns raised during the public scoping period and contains responses to letters received during the public comment period for the Draft EIS. Changes made to the previously published Draft EIS are highlighted in bold italics.

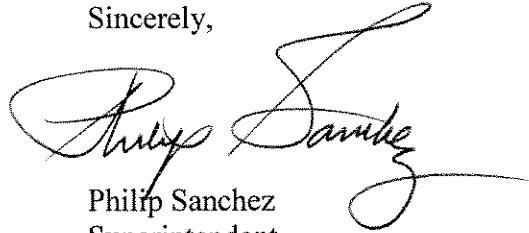
The Final EIS is also available on the following website: <http://www.efw.bpa.gov/cgi-bin/PSA/NEPA/SUMMARIES/WanapaEnergy>.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs will prepare a Record of Decision; the Bonneville Power Administration and the Bureau of Reclamation will prepare independent Records of Decision.

Public comments on the Final EIS must be submitted in writing to: Philip Sanchez, Superintendent, Umatilla Agency, Bureau of Indian Affairs, P.O. Box 520, 46807 B Street, Pendleton, Oregon 97801.

If you would like to obtain additional information, please contact Mr. Jerry Lauer,
Natural Resource Officer, Bureau of Indian Affairs, (541) 278-3786.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Philip Sanchez". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Philip Sanchez
Superintendent